**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.:   BDT/EUR/DM/076   Geneva, 14 February 2019

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- Regulators
- ITU Sector Members,
- Academia
- Regional and International Organizations
- Regional Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the
  Advisory Groups (TSAG, TDAG, RAG) and
  Study Groups

Cc: - Permanent Missions

Subject: Invitation to the ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe, 6 May 2019, Rome, Italy

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe to be organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) at the kind invitation of the Ministry of Economic Development of Italy. The Forum will take place in Rome, Italy, on 6 May 2019 and will be held back to back with the meeting of the CEPT Committee for ITU Policies (Com-ITU), held in the same premises from 7 to 9 May 2019.

Regional Development Forums provide an opportunity for high-level dialogue between the ITU Regional Offices and decision-makers of ITU Member States and Sector Members on the activities carried out at the regional level, so that they can play a part in the implementation of the ITU Strategic Plan, Programmes, Projects and the Regional Initiatives set out in Resolution 17 (Rev.) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17, Buenos Aires). RDFs serve as a platform for assessing strategic orientations that may have an impact on Regional Offices work plan incorporating regional actions of all three Sectors and the General Secretariat.

In this context, these Forums will report on the implementation of regional activities of ITU carried out in 2018, including implementation of the Regional Initiatives approved by WTDC-17 and related projects. They will provide all stakeholders with an opportunity to discuss 2019 action plans for the respective region, to announce commitments and to exchange experiences and best practices. They will also address Study Groups, Membership, Partnerships, ITU Centres of Excellence, as well as regional contributions to the implementation of WSIS Action Lines and SDGs. The draft agenda of the Forum is attached as Annex 1.

RDFs are open to all stakeholders willing to strengthen cooperation and partnerships among telecommunication/ICT policy-makers, regulators, industry, academia, regional and international development agencies and organizations on specific regional telecommunication and ICT matters.

Please note that the Forum will be paperless. Documents related to this event, including the venue of the meeting, practical information, agenda and presentations, will be available on the ITU website at https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Europe/Pages/Events/2019/RDF/Regional-Development-Forum.aspx. The Forum will be conducted in English only.

To participate, please register online using the link available at http://www.itu.int/go/regitud no later than **1 May 2019**.

There is no participation fee for this event, however, please note that all expenses concerning travel, accommodation and insurance of experts should be covered by your Administration / Organization / Company.

Those participants requiring an entry visa to Italy are requested to contact their local Embassy of Italy for information well in advance.

Mr Jaroslaw Ponder, Head of the ITU Office for Europe (tel: +41 22 730 6065, e-mail: eurregion@itu.int) is at your full disposal for any questions you might have concerning this event.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Director

International Telecommunication Union   International Telecommunication Union

ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe (RDF-EUR)

Information and Communication Technologies for attaining Sustainable Development Goals

organized by the International Telecommunication Union at the kind invitation of the Ministry of Economic Development of Italy

Ministero dello Sviluppo Economico

Monday 6 May 2019 | Rome, Italy

https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Europe/Pages/Events/2019/RDF/Regional-Development-Forum.aspx

(Meeting held back-to-back with Com-ITU of CEPT – 7-9 May 2019, Rome, Italy)

DRAFT AGENDA

[8:30 – 9:00]	**Registration**
[9:00– 9:15]	**Opening Ceremony**
[9:15 – 9:30]	Group Photo
[9:30 – 11:00]	**Regional Actions Beyond the WTDC-17 and PP-18** *ITU Actions at the Regional Level | Regional Initiatives | Study Groups | Partnerships | Membership | SMEs | Academia | WSIS Action Lines and SDGs*
[11:00 – 11:30]	Coffee Break
[11:30 – 13:00]	**Review of Implementation of the ITU Regional Initiatives for Europe** *EUR1: Broadband infrastructure, broadcasting and spectrum management* *EUR2: A citizen-centric approach to building services for national administrations*
[13:00 – 14:00]	Lunch Break
[14:00 – 16:00]	**Review of Implementation of the ITU Regional Initiatives for Europe** *EUR3: Accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development* *EUR4: Enhancing trust and confidence in the use of information and communication technologies*
[16:00 – 16:30]	Coffee Break
[16:30 – 17:45]	**Review of Implementation of the ITU Regional Initiatives for Europe** *EUR5: ICT-centric innovation ecosystems* *2019-2020 Action Plan for Implementing ITU Regional Initiatives for Europe*
[17:45 – 17:50]	Technical Break
[17:50 – 18:00]	**Conclusions and Way Forward**

ANNEX 2